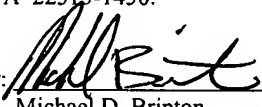


# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: WALKER et al.	) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
	)
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned	) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
	)
	) Attorney Docket No: 03-034
	)
Filing Date: April 15, 2004	) <b>CUSTOMER NO.: 22927</b>
	)
	)
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR	)
AWARDING PRIZES IN A LOCAL	)
EDITION OF AN ONLINE GAME	)

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope with sufficient postage and addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: 04.15.04 By: 

Michael D. Brinton

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a thorough search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Nor shall the filing of this information disclosure statement be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 may be deemed to be pertinent

to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. ☐ Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the pending U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider and independently ascertain the teachings and relevance of those applications with respect to the instant application. Applicants would be pleased to provide the Examiner with a copy of these applications upon request.
2. ☐ For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a European Search Report from a counterpart European application is enclosed. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
4. ☒ No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:  
  
    ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.  
  
    ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491.

- [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
5. [ ] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.
6. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action). The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is to be paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
7. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance, but before the payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
  - b. this document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.
  - c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
8. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue;
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue.
- ☐ The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
9. ☐ I hereby certify:
- ☐ that each item of information contained in the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of such communication is enclosed.
- ☐ that no item of information contained or listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
10. ☐ Please accept payment of the fees due as indicated below:
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).


[ ] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0271 in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

11. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271. A copy of this authorization is attached.

12. [ ] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination.

Respectfully submitted,

April 15, 2004  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b>	<b>Docket Number</b>	03-034	<b>Serial Number</b>	Not Yet Assigned
	<b>Applicants</b> WALKER et al.			
	<b>Filing Date</b> April 15, 2004		<b>Group Art Unit</b> Not Yet Assigned	

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIAT E
	A	5,620,182	04/15/97	Rossides	273	138.2	
	B	5,759,101	06/02/98	Von Kohorn	463	40	
	C	5,916,024	06/29/99	Von Kohorn	463	40	
	D	6,061,660	05/09/00	Eggleston et al.	705	14	
	E	6,102,406	08/15/00	Miles et al.	273	430	
	F	6,185,541	02/06/01	Scroggie et al.	705	14	
	G	6,249,772	06/19/01	Walker et al.	705	26	
	H	US 6,317,718 B1	11/13/01	Fano	705	1	
	I	US 6,322,076 B1	11/27/01	Fikki	273	278	
	J	6,381,582	04/30/02	Walker et al.	705	26	
	K	US 2002/0065757 A1	05/30/02	Lam	705	37	
	L	US 6,418,421 B1	07/09/02	Hurtado et al.	705	54	
	M	US 6,453,347 B1	09/17/02	Revashetti et al.	709	224	
	N	US 2002/0143619 A1	10/03/02	Laurie	705	14	
	O	US 6,519,571 B1	02/11/03	Guheen et al.	705	14	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

<b>EXAMINER</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED:</b>
-----------------	-------------------------

**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b>	<b>Docket Number</b>	03-034	<b>Serial Number</b>	Not Yet Assigned
	<b>Applicants</b>			
	WALKER et al.			
	<b>Filing Date</b>	April 15, 2004	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	Not Yet Assigned

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

P	"Marketers target regionally; Marketers are now recognising the importance of studying localized buying patterns and are adapting their tactics according to region says Mike Jeanes.", Marketing Week, January 29, 1998, Section: Factfile, pp. 34-35.
Q	Website: "Ohio retailer rescues Filene's Basement", ( <a href="http://www.epicuredigital.com/pdfs/history.pdf">http //www epicuredigital com/pdfs/history pdf</a> ), Eagle-Tribune Publishing, February 4, 2000
R	Komando, Kim, "Power Shopping on the Internet", USA Today, October 29, 2001, ( <a href="http://www.usatoday.com/tech/columnist/2001/10/29/komando.htm">http //www usatoday com/tech/columnist/2001/10/29/komando htm</a> ).
S	Press Release: "KPBS Presents Online Knowledge Challenge January 21-25, San Diego's KPBS is the first public broadcasting affiliate in the nation to launch new, interactive fund raising innovation.", Kintera, January 14, 2002, ( <a href="http://www.kintera.com/home/press/2002/kintera_050.asp">http www kintera com/home/press/2002/kintera_050 asp</a> ).
T	Daniels, Malcomb, "City Awaits Court Ruling on Legality of Adult Arcades", Birmingham News, January 16, 2002, Section: Neighborhoods.
U	O'Brien, Julie, "Spend some hazy, lazy days reading this summer; Neighbor", Daily Herald, May 29, 2002, Section: pg. 3.
V	Website: "Flibid.com – Flipping the Rules! Flibid.com Free Reverse Auction Site for Buyers and Sellers", ( <a href="http://www.epicuredigital.com/pdfs/history.pdf">http //www epicuredigital com/pdfs/history pdf</a> ), Copyright 2003.
W	Press Release: "Baseview and Tribune Interactive Partner to Provide UPICKEM Sports Games on Seven Newspaper Web Sites", Tribune Company, January 16, 2003, ( <a href="http://www.tribune.com/pressroom/releases/2003/01162003.html">http //www tribune com/pressroom/relaseses/2003/01162003 html</a> ).
X	"Bonita Springs", The News-Press (Fort Myers, FL), February 3, 2003, Section: South Lee Bonita, pg. 2H.
Y	"Retailing's top dogs are tough to beat", The Grocer, February 15, 2003, Section: Analysis, pg. 40.
Z	Website: "coolsavings.com inc: Press Room: In The News", ( <a href="http://info.coolsavings.com/news/faqs.asp?tabs=faqs&amp;nav=faqs&amp;CS=http%3A%2F%2Fw..">http //info coolsavings com/news/faqs asp?tabs=faqs&amp;nav=faqs&amp;CS=http%3A%2F%2Fw..</a> ), download date: March 27, 2003.

**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED:**

**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

